

AGRICULTURE.

15

N^o III.

ENGLISH OPIUM.

The Sum of THIRTY GUINEAS, being the Premium offered, was this Session given to Messrs. COWLEY & STAINES, of Winslow, Bucks, for 143 pounds of OPIUM, of excellent quality, collected by them, from about eleven Acres of Land, planted with the Papaver Somniferum. The following Communication has been received from them on the subject, and a Sample of the Opium remains in the possession of the Society.

SIR;

Winslow,
March 29, 1823.

WE have inclosed a specimen and testimonials to exemplify the quality, and certify the quantity, of opium which we obtained last year from about 11 acres of land, which we request you to lay before the Society.

The method of cultivating the poppy and extracting the opium, differed in no respect from that employed in the preceding year, the account of which is already in the possession of the Society: the only circumstance worthy of notice is, that the collection of opium was begun on June 26th, and finished July 13th, being more than a month earlier than the usual period; this was attributable to the dryness of the season, as was also the deficiency of the produce which fell below the average quantity. Some compensation, however,

was made for the deficiency by an abundant crop of turnips which succeeded the poppies.

We are, Sir,
&c. &c. &c.

To *A. Aikin, Esq.*
Secretary, &c. &c. COWLEY & STAINES.

CERTIFICATE.

Winslow, Bucks,
29th March, 1823.

I HEREBY certify, that Messrs. Cowley and Staines collected 143 pounds of opium in the last season from 11 acres and 5 poles of land.

JOHN KING, *Land Surveyor.*

Winslow, Bucks,
29th March, 1823.

THIS is to certify, that Messrs. Cowley and Staines obtained 143 pounds of opium from poppies of their growth, during the season of 1822.

WILLIAM GRANT.

2, Newman's Row, Lincoln's-Inn-fields,
March 27th, 1823.

SIR;

I BEG leave to state, for the information of the Society of Arts, that, for the last six months past I have used the British opium produced by Messrs. Cowley and Staines, of Winslow, in the year 1822, and am satisfied that both its purity and medicinal properties are, in every respect, equal to those possessed by the opium produced by the same gentlemen in the preceding year.

I am, Sir,
&c. &c. &c.

To *A. Aikin, Esq.*
Secretary, &c. &c. T. CLARKE, *Surgeon.*